

NEW DESCRIPTIONS

STUDIES ON SPIDERS OF THE GENUS *LUTICA* MARX (FAMILY-ZODARIIDAE) FROM INDIA¹

B. K. TIKADER²

(With ten text-figures)

INTRODUCTION

The family Zodariidae consists of a small number of rare and inconspicuous, ground dwelling forms. Simon (1905, 1906) and Gravely (1921) have described some species of this family from India. Very recently Tikader & Patel (1975) and Tikader & Malhotra (1976) described some new species of the genera *Storena* and *Lutica* of the family Zodariidae from India.

I have provided a key to species and illustrated epigyne and internal genitalia of two known species of the genus *Lutica* and described a new species in this paper. Type specimens of new species are deposited in the National Collections of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *Lutica* MARX.

1. Dorsal side of abdomen uniform deep brown in colour2

Dorsal side of abdomen uniform brownish red in colour..... *L. deccanensis*

2. Anterior middle eyes encircled by deep brown patches. Epigyne V-shaped..... *L. bengalensis*

Anterior area of eyes encircled by black patches. Epigyne not V-shaped..... *L. poonaensis*

Lutica deccanensis Tikader & Malhotra

(Figs. 1-2)

1976. *Lutica deccanensis* Tikader & Malhotra, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, 72 (3) : 794.

Specimens examined : 2 ♀♀, Flower garden, Poona University compound, Poona, Maharashtra, India. Coll. B. K. Tikader, 28.4.80.

Distribution : Poona (*Type-locality*), Maharashtra, India.

Remarks : I have studied the type as well as other specimens and have given illustrations of epigyne as well as internal genitalia which were not given in the original description.

Lutica bengalensis Tikader & Patel

(Figs. 3-4)

1975. *Lutica bengalensis* Tikader & Patel, *Bull. Brit. Arach. Soc.*, 3 (5) : 138.

Specimens examined : 3 ♀♀, Flower garden, Poona University compound, Poona, Maharashtra, India. Coll. B. K. Tikader, 4-2-1980.

Distribution : India : Calcutta (*Type-locality*) West Bengal, Poona, Maharashtra.

Remarks : I have studied the type as well as other specimens. I have given illustrations of epigyne as well as internal genitalia which was not provided in the original descriptions.

Lutica poonaensis sp. nov.

(Figs. 5-10)

General : Cephalothorax and legs greenish-brown, abdomen deep brown to dark. Total

¹ Accepted August 1980.

² Zoological Survey of India, Western Regional Station, Poona-411 005. *Present address* : Director, Zoological Survey of India, 34, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta-700 012.

length 3.60 mm. Cephalothorax 1.50 mm long, 1.20 mm wide; abdomen 2.10 mm long, 1.50 mm wide.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, cephalic region slightly high and light brown. Eyes pearly white except anterior medians. Anterior row straight or slightly procurved, anterior medians conspicuously larger than others and encircled by deep brown to dark patches. Posterior row strongly procurved and posterior medians widely separated and closer to adjacent laterals. Lateral eyes contiguous. Legs

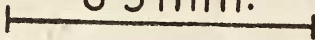
long and moderately strong, clothed with fine hairs. Legs formula 4132. Sternum heart-shaped, pointed behind, clothed with fine hairs. Labium and maxillae as in text-fig. 6. Male palp as in text-fig. 8.

Abdomen : Oval, nearly elliptical in shape, slightly overlapping cephalothorax in front. Dorsal side uniform deep brown to dark colour but ventral side uniform pale colour. Anterior pair of spinnerets conspicuously long and other two pairs not developed properly. Epigyne as in text-fig. 9. Internal genitalia as in text-fig. 10.



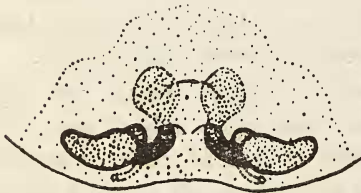
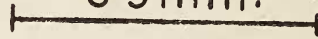
1

0.5 mm.



3

0.5 mm.



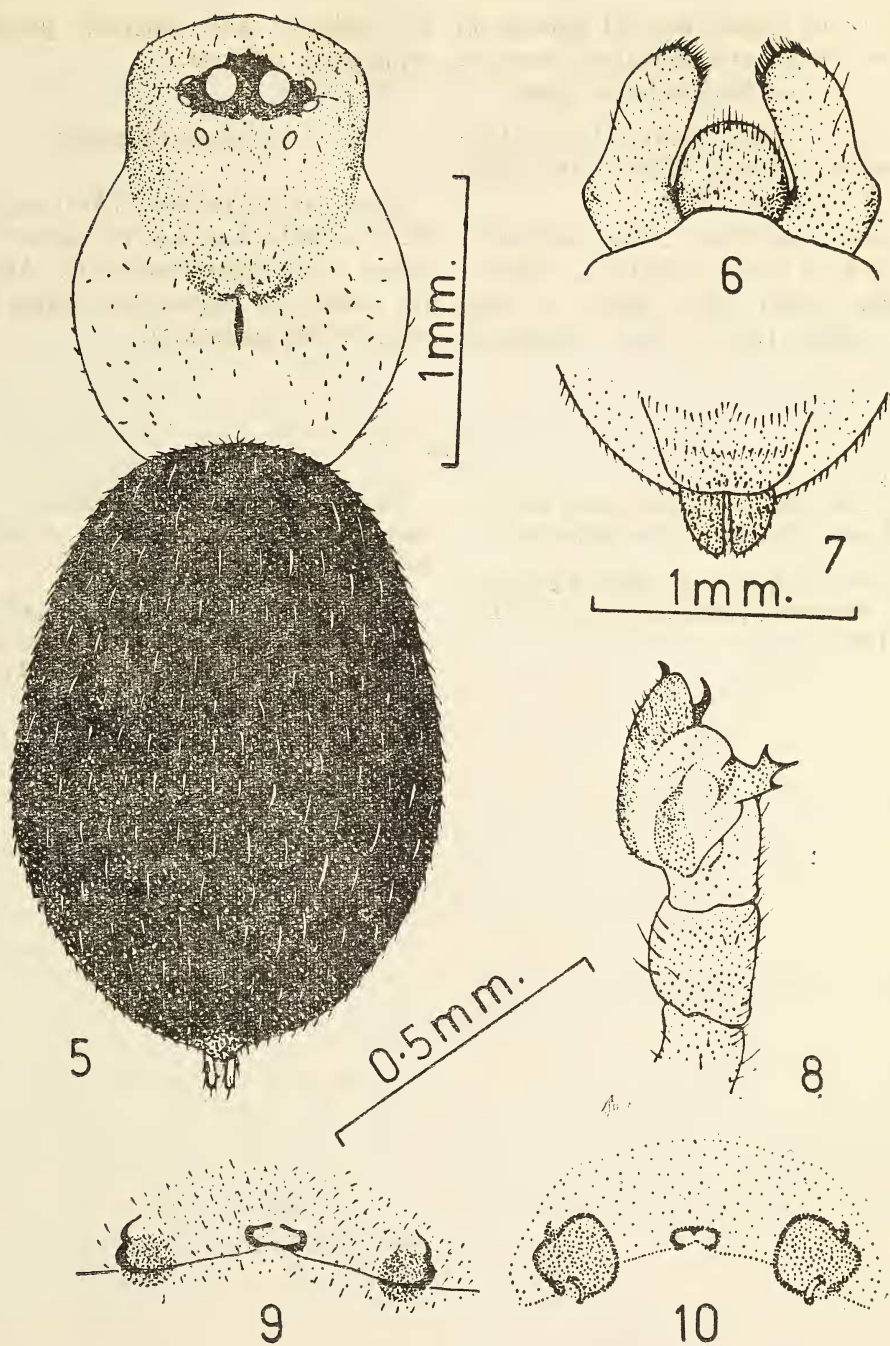
2



4

FIGS. 1-2. *Lutica deccanensis* Tikader & Malhotra. 1. Epigyne; 2. Internal genitalia.
3-4. *Lutica bengalensis* Tikader & Patel. 3. Epigyne; 4. Internal genitalia.

NEW DESCRIPTIONS



FIGS. 5-10. *Lutica poonaensis* sp. nov.

5. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted ; 6. Maxillae and labium ; 7. Spinnerets ; 8. Male palp ; 9. Epigyne ; 10. Internal genitalia.

Holotype : One female, internal genitalia in (2) Epigyne and internal genitalia also a microvial along with holotype, *paratype* structurally different. six females, *allotype* four males in spirit.

Type-locality : Flower garden, Poona University compound, Poona, Maharashtra, India. Coll. B. K. Tikader, 28-3-1980.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This species resembles *Lutica bengalensis* Tikader and Patel but is separated as follows : (1) Cephalic region more brown to dark than the cephalic region of *L. bengalensis*.

I am thankful to Shri P. W. Garde and Shri D. J. Kamble, Artists of this station for preparation of illustrations and to Dr. Animesh Bal, for assisting in various ways during the preparation of the manuscript.

REFERENCES

GRAVELY, F. H. (1921) : The spiders and scorpions of Barkuda Island. *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **22** : 400-421.
SIMON, E. (1905) : Voyage de M. Maurica Maindron dans l'Inde Meridional, Arachnides. *Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr.*, **74** : 160-180.

TIKADER, B. K. AND PATEL, B. H. (1975) : Studies on some rare spiders of the family Zodariidae from India. *Bull. Arach. Soc.*, London **3** (5) : 137-139.

————— AND MALHOTRA, M. S. (1976) : A new species of spider of the genus *Lutica* (Family Zodariidae) from India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.*, **72** (3) : 794-796.